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censure of its *Legend of Good Women* as containing blunders "many and outrageous" is a fairer average estimate of the textual value of the ms. than is implied by Prof. Skeat in vol. I of the Oxford Chaucer, p. 80. Schick, loc. cit., rates the second scribe of the codex, the same man who transcribed the *Legend of Good Women*, as a better workman than the first copyist, who produces "in many cases perfect nonsense."

ELEANOR P. HAMMOND.

THE REIMS MANUSCRIPT OF THE FABLES OF WALTER OF ENGLAND.

In the memorial volume dedicated by his former students to Professor Suchier, Mr. Karl Warnke refers¹ to a manuscript of a collection of *exempla* in the library of the city of Reims (ms. 743/739, fols. 142o-152o). Wishing to investigate the source of the last two *exempla* of that collection, I forwarded to Mr. L. Demaison, archivist of the city of Reims, the above reference from Mr. Warnke's note. His answer to my inquiry is of interest:

"... Les fables sont contenues dans le ms. 1275 (ancien 743/739) de la Bibliothèque de Reims.

"Elles se trouvent aux fol. 14ro à 15ro, et non aux fol. 142o-152o, ainsi que vous me l'avez écrit. Induit en erreur par cette indication, j'ai d'abord copié au fol. 159ro les deux dernières fables d'une série de fables en vers, contenues dans les fol. 156ro à 159ro. Je vous en envoie à tout hasard le texte qui sera peut-être de nature à vous intéresser. . . ."

Hence, the thirty-five *exempla* mentioned by Mr. Warnke (*l. c.*) are contained on fols. 14ro-15ro of the manuscript now numbered 1275 in the public library of Reims.

The fables in verse of fols. 156ro-159ro, which interest us here, have not heretofore, so far as I am aware, been referred to as a fragmentary collection of the fables of Walter of England.

The collection consists of forty-seven fables, in

elegiac verse, which correspond as follows to the first forty-five fables published by Mr. Hervieux in his *Les Fabulistes Latins*:²

Reims (ms. 1275) fable	1	=	Hervieux, Prologue
"	"	2	= " fable 1
		etc.	etc.
"	"	22	= " 21
"	"	23	= " 21a
"	"	24	= " 22
		etc.	etc.
"	"	47	= " 45

The reading of the Reims manuscript offers only here and there a word different from that of the manuscript published by Mr. Hervieux, and the variants will be of interest only when the various manuscripts of Walter's fables are studied comparatively.

I have not seen the volume of the *Catalogue général des Manuscrits des Bibliothèques publiques des Départements*, in which will be found a description of the manuscript in question, and I do not know if the fables of which we are speaking will there be announced as those of Walter of England. Mr. Demaison informs me (in a letter of Jan. 19, 1904) that there is in the library of Berlin a collection of fables of the same date and almost identical with the forty-seven fables of fols. 156ro-159ro of ms. 1275 of the Reims library.

The Reims ms. 1275 consists of 191 folios, and the orthography is that of the last half of the thirteenth century, or first part of the fourteenth.

The similarity between the forty-seven fables of ms. 1275 (fols. 156ro-159ro) of the Reims library and the forty-five fables contained in ms. 1694³ of the Philipps Library suggested that, perhaps, the Reims manuscript was no other than the Philipps ms. 1694 which had been sold since Mr. Hervieux described it as belonging in 1893 to the Philipps Library. ms. 1694 of the Philipps Library, like the Reims ms. 1275, consists of 191 folios, and its forty-five fables bear the same relation to the fables on fols. 156ro-159ro of the Reims ms. 1275 that I have already shown to exist between the Reims collection and the first forty-five fables of the

² Cf. L. Hervieux, *Les Fabulistes Latins*, Vol. II (2e éd.), Paris, Firmin Didot et Cie., 1893, pp. 316-339.

³ Described in Hervieux, *Les Fabulistes Latins*, Vol. I (2e éd.), p. 578.

¹ Cf. *Forschungen zur Romanischen Philologie, Festgabe für Hermann Suchier*, zum 15. März, 1900. Halle a. S., Max Niemeyer, 1900, p. 165, f. n. 2.

Walter of England collection published by Mr. Hervieux in his second volume (pp. 316-339), the last fable of each collection being that of "The Nightingale and the Hawk."

The Reims ms. 1275 is not, however, the former Phillipps ms. 1694, as is proved by the following statement of Mr. Demaison: "Nous n'avons à Reims aucun manuscrit provenant de la bibliothèque Phillipps. Le manuscrit 1275 de notre bibliothèque provient du chapitre de Reims, qui l'a possédé jusqu'à la Révolution."

Resolved to find the present owner of the Phillipps ms. 1694, I wrote to the British Museum for the desired information. The answer to my inquiry informed me that T. Fitzroy Fenwick, Esq., Cheltenham, England, was the only person who could tell me what had become of ms. 1694 of the Phillipps Library. A letter to Mr. Fenwick secured the desired information, namely, that the Phillipps ms. 1694 is now in the Royal Library in Berlin, where it is numbered 180 in the catalogue of the Phillipps mss. in that library.

Of the numerous collections (more than a hundred) of the fables of Walter of England, two fragmentary collections are practically identical. One of these fragmentary collections (Phillipps ms. 1694) was known to and described by Mr. Hervieux; the other (Reims 1275, fols. 156r-159r) is, I believe, here for the first time mentioned as belonging to the collection of Walter the Englishman.

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TWO INVESTIGATIONS IN FRENCH PHONETICS.

Students of Phonetics, pure or applied, will be interested in an article which has recently appeared in the "Mémoires de la Société Néophilologique" of Helsingfors (Volume III, Paris, H. Welter).

In the contribution referred to, "Deux questions de Phonétique française," M. J. Poirot gives the results of certain experiments bearing: 1° upon the effect of labialized vowels upon a preceding labial explosive; 2° upon some aspects of "e muet."

The first investigation deals with a familiar phenomenon, namely, the change of position of the "line of occlusion" in the case of a labial explosive when followed by a labialized vowel, and likewise a difference in the character of the explosion, due to the presence of such vowel.

M. Poirot's conclusions from his experiments on the labialized vowels are in no wise different from what we should expect after reading Rousselot's and Demeny's reports of observations in the same line.¹ They confirm also impressions obtained auricularly by many observers, and their value is, of course, in their scientific precision.

Setting out with the readily granted hypothesis that the non-labialized vowels do not modify the position of the lips in the utterance of *p*, *b*, *m*, the experimenter notes that the French labialized vowels *o* and *eu*, and their modifications, in which the lips are rounded practically without being advanced, show no change in the "line of occlusion," or but a slight one. His method is to pronounce *pa*, stopping at the occlusion of the consonant and coloring with some dye the exposed surfaces of the lips. On opening the mouth, the anterior limit of the contact is distinctly marked. Continuing the experiment, and proceeding similarly with *pé*, *pi*, *po*, *peu*, *pou*, *pu*, and measuring in each case, M. Poirot detects in his own pronunciation a slight recession of the anterior limit, averaging 1.25 mm., for *po* and *peu*, whereas for *pou* and *pu* the advancement of the lips causes a recession of the line of from 3.5 to 4 mm. Here evidently is a reason for the quality of the French labial explosives before *ou* and *u*, as compared with the same consonants in English and German, the English having no rounded vowel with advancement of the lips and the lip advancement in German being much slighter than in French.

In order to get a more accurate idea of this French quality of the labial explosive before *ou* and *u*, M. Poirot has made another order of experiment. Being in Paris for a short time, he invoked the aid of the laboratory of experimental phonetics of the Collège de France and used as subjects himself, M. F. Laclotte (author of *Précis de Prononciation française*), and an Amer-

¹ Rousselot's *Principes de Phonétique Expérimentale*, Pt. II; Demeny, *Analyse des mouvements de la parole*, Journal de Physique, 1893.